

Application No. 10/005,836
Amendment dated December 1, 2003
Reply to Office Action of October 10, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 01-10127

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 11, 12, 17, 18, and 19 remain in this application. No new matter has been added by the amendments herein.

Prior to the Office Action, the Examiner required an election of either claims 1 through 8; claims 9 through 13 and 17 through 19; or claims 14 through 16, taking the position that these groups of claims recited distinct inventions. The Applicant elected claims 9 through 13 and 17 through 19 without prejudice. Pursuant to the Examiner's telephone conversation with Kelly Cunningham, Esq., claims 1 through 8 and 14 through 16 were therefore cancelled without prejudice to any future or pending application covering the same or similar subject matter.

By the present amendment, Applicant cancels claims 9, 10, and 13, and amends claims 11 and 12 solely to recite these claims in independent form as recommended by the Examiner. These amendments were therefore not narrowing in any way.

Having responded to each of the Examiner's concerns, Applicant asserts that the application is now in condition for allowance and solicits such action. If a telephone interview will advance the allowance of the application, enabling an Examiner's amendment or other meaningful discussion of the case, Applicant requests the Examiner contact Applicant's representative at the number listed below.

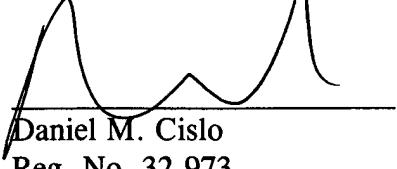
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It is not believed that any additional fees are due; however, in the event any additional fees are due, the Examiner is authorized to charge Applicant's attorney's deposit account no. 03-2030.

Respectfully submitted,

CISLO & THOMAS LLP

Date: December 3, 2003


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